

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Iraq/Syria

SUBJECT Anti-Hashimite Activities

CONFIDENTIAL

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

C-3 1. Ahmad Rawi, Director of Foreign Affairs in Iraq, visited Sami Sulh, former Prime Minister of Lebanon, on 27 July 1948 and discussed the following matters with him:

- The recent declaration on a possible agreement between Syria and Iraq.
- The movement of Rashid Ali Gaylani's followers to expel the Hashimites from Transjordan and Iraq.
- The possible annexation of Transjordan by Syria and of Aqaba by Sa'udi Arabia.

C-3 2. Ahmad Rawi stated the following, during his visit with Sulh:

- The anti-Hashimite movement in Iraq is very strong, and several Iraqi leaders wish to replace the Hashimite rule by a republican form of government.
- Republican adherents are numerous, and their activities have increased in the Kurdish districts of Sulaymaniyah, Kirkuk, Erbil and the Shi'a Moslem areas.
- Gaylani's followers prefer a republican form of government.
- The Soviets are playing a large role in the anti-Hashimite movement.
- The Iraqi Government has the situation under control. Prime Minister Muzahim Pachachi is strongly pro-Hashimite, so there is no fear of disturbances at present, unless Syria is able to convince Gaylani's followers and the friends of the Grand Mufti, Hajj Amin Husayni, that Palestine can be saved only by war and unless, in the course of the ensuing fight in Palestine, disturbances can be created in Iraq and Transjordan against the Hashimites.

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C-3 3. Ahmad Rawi expressed grave concern over this anti-Hashimite movement and its consequences, especially if the Palestine problem is not settled soon. He affirmed that Hajj Amin Husayni is active in the anti-Hashimite activity.

F-3 4. Mahdi Gaylani, who lives in Beit Sawa near Damascus, is playing an important role in assisting his relative, Rashid Ali Gaylani, in the latter's attempt to expel the Hashimites from Iraq. Mahdi Gaylani is endeavoring to unite the Syrians and the Iraqis who oppose the Hashimites, and bring them together into one republic. (

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